

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 10 and 11 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1-4 being independent.

The specification has been reviewed and amended to improve its idiomatic English form. A new abstract is being submitted to better set forth the technical features of Applicants' invention.

Independent Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to further distinguish Applicants' invention from the cited art. In addition, Claims 5-9 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-4 and 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Baumgartner '980. Claims 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over Baumgartner. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Each of Applicants' independent Claims 1-4 relates to an injection mold comprising a sliding member having a partial cavity surface which forms part of a cavity surface, and an adjacent member having a partial cavity surface which forms part of the cavity surface. A sliding surface of the sliding member is guided by a sliding surface of the adjacent member and is linearly movable a relative sliding distance.

In Claim 1, a portion from the partial cavity surface to the sliding surface of at least one of the sliding member and the adjacent member is continuously coated with a heat insulating coat, and a range over which the sliding surface is coated with the heat insulating coat is so set as to exceed an end of the relative sliding distance, where an edge of the partial cavity surface of the adjacent member contacts with the sliding surface of the sliding member.

Claim 2 includes the features of Claim 1, and further sets forth that an entire region from the heat insulating coat to the sliding surface is continuously coated with a protective coat.

In Claim 3, a portion from the partial cavity surface to the sliding surface of at least one of the sliding member and adjacent member is continuously coated with a heat insulating coat, and an entire region from the heat insulating coat to the sliding surface is continuously coated with a protective coat.

Lastly, in Claim 4 at a least a portion of the partial cavity surface of at least one of the sliding member and the adjacent member is continuously coated with a heat insulating coat, and an entire region from the heat insulating coat to the sliding surface is continuously coated with a protective coat.

In accordance with Applicants' claimed invention, a high performance and long lasting injection mold can be provided.

The Baumgartner patent relates to a multilayered injection mold 10 comprised of two core halves 12 forming a mold cavity 14 therebetween and being relatively movable with respect to each other. As shown in Figure 1A, each core half includes a thermal insulating layer 22. Additionally, a hard skin layer 24 can be applied over the insulating layer to protect the insulating layer and provide a desired surface finish.

With respect to all of the claims, is respectfully submitted that Baumgartner does not provide a sliding surface of one of the members, i.e., the core halves 12, that is guided by a sliding surface of the other member and linearly movable by a relative sliding distance.

Although the two core halves are said to be relatively movable with respect to each other, they are not understood to slide as set forth in Applicants' independent claims. Baumgartner does not teach or suggest, therefore, a sliding surface that is coated in accordance with Applicants' claimed invention.

Furthermore, with respect to Claims 1 and 2, Baumgartner is not understood to teach or suggest, among other features, coating a sliding surface with a heat insulating coat so as to exceed an end of a relative sliding distance, where an edge of the partial cavity surface of the adjacent member contacts a sliding surface of the sliding member. In Baumgartner, the two core halves 12 may be relatively movable but do not include an edge of one member that contacts a sliding surface of the other member. Claim 2 is still further distinguished from Baumgartner by providing an entire region from the heat insulating coat to the sliding surface that is continuously coated with a protective coat.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Baumgartner fails to anticipate or render obvious Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claims 1-4, and thus reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 is respectfully requested.

Therefore, it is submitted that Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claims 1-4 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 10 and 11 set forth additional features of Applicants' invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed document is also enclosed.

Japanese Document No. 9-262838 relates to a mold comprised of a base metal mold. An edge of the mold is coated with a heat insulating layer and a metallic layer.

Accompanying this paper is a check for \$180.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and §1.17(p).

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

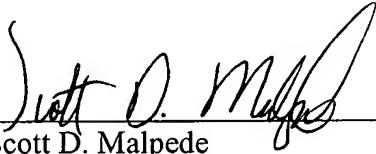
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Appln. No.: 10/649,834

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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